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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/616,157

07/09/2003

Joseph Du

N1085-00099

9753

54657

7590

11/13/2006

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EXAMINER

ROSE, HELENE ROBERTA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2163

DATE MAILED: 11/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief	Application No. 10/616,157	Applicant(s) DU ET AL.	
	Examiner Helene Rose	Art Unit 2163	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 30 October 2006 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

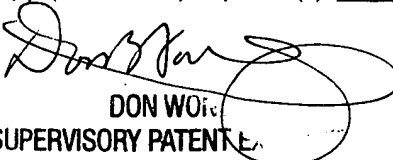
4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
7. ☐ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
Claim(s) allowed: _____
Claim(s) objected to: _____
Claim(s) rejected: 1-32 and 34-42.
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See Continuation Sheet.
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____
13. ☐ Other: _____.


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Continuation of 11. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Applicant's arguments have been considered, but are not persuasive. Therefore, the 35 U.S.C - 103 rejection is maintained as set forth on the Final Office Action dated on 7/26/2006. See Examiner Responses below:

1. Applicant argues prior art fail to teach, " providing candidate data representing attributes of candidates for the task [item] responsible person including field of expertise".

Examiner respectfully disagrees. Referring to Day - column 7, lines 19-25, wherein the reviews section allows the team members entering the document information to identify the additional team members who will be responsible for the review of the document, wherein the actual reviewer(s) is selected from a list of potential reviewers that is restricted to particular team members of management which ensures that documents are not widely disseminated without having first been reviewed by an authorized team member or management which is equivalent to task responsible person, wherein document is interpreted to be the [item]; column 9, lines 59-66, wherein the basic information section, a team member designation section and additional information, wherein the team member designation section permits entering information associated with the team members including user identification by which the user is identified in the global directory, also see Figure 13, diagram 224, wherein the first and last name, representative of, role, database identification numbers, and wherein diagram 220 illustrates a new template which is only used by team leaders and administrators who are given access to additional links beyond those links available for general team members, wherein one such link permits the team leader to configure the team room using the new team room template which is divided into basic information, team member designation, and additional information section; and as defined in applicants specification, paragraphs [0022-0023], the data representing attributes of candidates for task-responsible persons can comprise their names, expertise, workload, and contact information and at least one task is assigned to at least one task-responsible person, in some embodiments, an assignment is made after taking into consideration the workload and the expertise of individuals, wherein for example, the North America marketing is assigned to John Smith, and also shown in Figure 13, within diagram 224, illustrates a team member, representative of, and role, wherein role is assigned to a member.

2. Applicant argues prior art fails to teach, "read-only access to a task or item report"

Examiner respectfully disagrees. Referring to Day - column 5, lines 19-26, wherein virtual team room environments are accessed through the unsecured network 16 or the secured network 20 or other networking architecture, and facilitate the sharing of information and the linking of data for diverse groups of users, wherein each team member is given access to a virtual team room environment supporting the project or sub-project associated with that team and that the team member is involved with; column 5, lines 31-34, wherein restricted access may be provided such that only team members management and other authorized users may access, modify, add or delete project information and data retained within a team room and lines 37-41, wherein restricted level access to only those team members or users having a profile within the local directory 28 ensures the integrity of the information and data, as these users will be the only users with authority to enter or edit information and data within the virtual team room environment which is equivalent to read-only access.

3. Applicant argues prior art fails to teach, namely a "patent opinion" as indicated on pages 8 & 9, of applicant remarks.

Examiner respectfully disagrees. Referring to Uchio - Figure 32, diagram 3207, wherein the reference numeral 3207 denotes comments of the studying persons in the development section and the development right acquirement support section, further defined in paragraph [0211], wherein reference numeral denotes the case number of the present case, summary of present case, type of action, and so forth; and paragraph [0103], also indicates the comment to the next person, wherein comment is equivalent to an opinion.

4. Applicant argues prior art fails to teach, " claim 39, wherein patent opinion concerns whether a specific patent is infringed by a competitor of a user of the system, as disclosed within applicant remarks on page 10, with emphasizes on the term "infringe".

Examiner respectfully disagrees. Referring to Uchio - see Figure 32, wherein it illustrates the results of a case; paragraphs [0203], [0205], and [0211], wherein reference numeral denotes an approval stamp, wherein infringed is interpreted to be the right to exclude others from utilizing an invention.

Additional Examiner Remarks:

Page 4, within applicant's remarks, states: "Why priority feature of Day is allegedly equivalent to candidate workload feature". Examiner clarifies the equivalence, refer to column 8, lines 7-11, wherein the basic information section includes priority selection, wherein the priority is color coded with red corresponding to high, yellow corresponding to medium and green corresponding to low, and wherein its inheritance that priority indicates precedence, especially established by order of importance or urgency; column 8, lines 18-18, wherein a due date for the review may be assigned, which is also equivalent to workload, wherein workload is defined to be the amount of work OR expected from a person in a specified time.

Also, on page 4, within applicants remarks, states: "Why the "new team template" featured in Figure 13 is equivalent to candidate contact information. Please see above (number 1), for clarity and equivalence in regards to this matter.